

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
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NSCE-00 SS-15 SSO-00 /051 W
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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7396

INFO USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 06231

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, PGOV, WB, GW, UK, FR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: PAN AM'S BUDGET FARE IN FRG AND BERLIN

REF: A. BONN 5956, B. STATE 85471, C. USBERLIN 777

1. PAN AM FILING FOR SUMMER SEASON 1978 FARES
BETWEEN BERLIN AND US RECEIVED AT EMBASSY APRIL 5. ON
APRIL 6 ALLIED CAA'S MET TO CONSIDER QUESTIONS RAISED
BY FILING AND BY PAN AM'S UNAUTHORIZED INTRODUCTION OF
FARES.

2. BRITISH CAA HANLEY (WHO IN EARLIER CONVERSATION
WITH EMBASSY CAA HAD RAISED POSSIBILITY OF FINING PAN
AM BUT DID NOT PURSUE IT IN THE MEETING) SAID THAT HE
HAD BEEN TOLD BY HELD OF FOREIGN OFFICE THAT THE
FOREIGN OFFICE AND THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT
(FMT) DID NOT RPT NOT FAVOR A SUSPENSION OF THE BUDGET
FARE PENDING RESOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM, BUT PROBABLY
WOULD FAVOR AN EXPLICIT TIME PERIOD DURING WHICH PAN
AM WOULD BE PERMITTED TO CONTINUE TO SELL AT THE BUDGET
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FARE RATE WITHOUT CAA AUTHORIZATION. HELD EARLIER
TOLD EMBASSY THAT HE WAS STRONGLY AGAINST SUSPENSION
BECAUSE IT WOULD PUT BCATAG DISCUSSION UNDER UNDUE
PRESSURE, FROM PRESS, POLITICIANS, AND BERLIN SENAT,
AND BECAUSE WE WOULD ALL LOOK RIDICULOUS IF WE SUSPENDED
THE FARE AND THEN SOON AFTER APPROVED IT. HANLEY HIM-
SELF WAS AWAITING INSTRUCTIONS FROM FCO AND EXPRESSED

NO VIEWS ON SUSPENSION OR APPROVAL OF THE FARES OR ON
POSSIBLE DISCIPLINARY ACTION AGAINST PAN AM.

2. CAA'S AGREED THAT, SINCE ONLY BUDGET FARES ARE
CONTROVERSIAL, WE WOULD SEEK INFORMAL AGREEMENT WITH
THE FOREIGN OFFICE TO APPROVE THE REST OF PAN AM'S
FILING IMMEDIATELY EVEN THOUGH THE NEW SUPER APEX
SHOULD ALSO HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE CAA'S BEFORE
IMPLEMENTATION.

3. COMMENT: WITH EXCEPTION OF FMT OFFICIALS, WHO
ARE ANGRY AND RESENTFUL, MOST OFFICIAL REACTIONS
SEEM RATHER CALM. THERE IS AGREEMENT THAT PAN AM
ACTED IMPROPERLY AND IRRESPONSIBLY BUT SOMETHING OF AN
ATTITUDE OF WHAT ELSE CAN YOU EXPECT FROM PAN AM. WE
DOUBT THAT ANYONE WILL PUSH SERIOUSLY IDEA OF FINING
PAN AM, THOUGH THERE IS STILL A GOOD CHANCE THAT A
STIFF REPRIMAND WILL BE ADVOCATED BY ONE OR MORE OF
THE PARTIES INVOLVED.

STOESSEL

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